

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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P R 051511Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8985

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

S E C R E T AMMAN 4601

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR,JO, KU, SA,SU

SUBJECT: JORDANIAN DIWAN CHIEF'S VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA

1. PRIME MINISTER BADRAN INFORMED ME ON SEPT 5 THAT PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS OF JORDANIAN ROYAL DIWAN CHIEF SHARAF'S SEPT 3-4 VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA WERE 1) TO EXPRESS KING HUSSEIN'S APPRECIATION FOR FORMAL SAUDI AGREEMENT TO FINANCE THE \$540 MILLION U.S. HAWK/VULCAN AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM, WHICH WOULD NOW ALLOW PROGRAM TO GO FORWARD, AND 2) TO EXPRESS KING HUSSEIN'S CONCERN OVER INTERNAL SITUATION IN KUWAIT.

2. BADRAN SAID THAT SHARAF VOICED JORDANIAN WORRY THAT KUWAIT, AS A SMALL CITY-STATE, IN WHICH CONSIDERABLE NUMBERS OF LEFTISTS AND SUBVERSIVES ARE PRESENT, IS PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TO SUBVERSION. "ALL IT TAKES IS A MORTAR BLAST AND A COUPLE OF BOMBS TO START A DIFFICULT INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION THERE."

3. BADRAN SAID JORDAN BELIEVES THE INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION IN KUWAIT HAS BEEN A PROBLEM FOR 3 OR 4 MONTHS. PROBLEM NOW, IF JORDANIAN EXPERIENCE IN 1970

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IS ANY GUIDE, IS THAT FIRM GOK ACTION MAY WELL TRIGGER

FURTHER ACTIVITY BY SUBVERSIVE ELEMENTS IN REACTION.

4. WITHOUT BEING SPECIFIC, BADRAN SAID SAUDI ARABIAN LEADERS INDICATED TO SHARAF THAT THEY SHARE JORDAN'S CONCERN OVER KUWAITI SITUATION. BADRAN ALSO MENTIONED THAT SYRIAN LEADERS INDICATED A SIMILAR CONCERN TO KING HUSSEIN DURING HIS SEPT 2 VISIT THERE.
SUDDARTH

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